

REMARKS

Claims 1-11 are pending. By this Amendment, Claims 1 and 5 are amended and Claims 10-11 added. Applicants respectfully submit that no new matter is submitted herein.

The Office Action notes the instant application claims subject matter disclosed in prior U.S. patent applications and that reference to the prior applications must be inserted as the first sentence of the Specification if the instant application is to rely on the filing date of the prior applications under 35 U.S.C. §119(e) or §120. Also, the Office Action notes that the current status of the referenced prior applications should also be included. Applicants have amended the Specification to reference the prior applications as well as to provide the current status of the prior applications from which the instant application claims priority.

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Number 5,167,583 to Bensinger et al. (hereinafter "Bensinger"). Claims 2-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Bensinger. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections.

Claims 1 and 5 each recite a constant velocity universal joint including, among other features, an outer periphery of a trunnion is shaped straight in longitudinal section and formed, in cross section, to make contact with an inner periphery of the support ring in a direction perpendicular to an axis of the joint, wherein a clearance is formed between the outer periphery of the trunnion and the inner periphery of the support ring in an axial direction of the joint.

Applicants respectfully submit Bensinger does not disclose or suggest such features. Specifically, Applicants respectfully note the pivot head or trunnion 5 disclosed by Bensinger is spherical. See column 4, line 34 and Figures 1-4 of Bensinger. Therefore, Bensinger does not disclose or suggest an outer periphery of the pivot head or trunnion 5 is straight in longitudinal section.

To qualify as prior art under 35 U.S.C. §102, a reference must teach, i.e., identically describe, each feature of a rejection claim. Moreover, to establish *prima facie* obviousness, each feature of a rejected claim must be taught or suggested by the applied art. As explained above, Bensinger fails to teach or suggest each and every feature recited by Claims 1 and 5. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit Claims 1 and 5 are not anticipated by, or rendered obvious in view of, Bensinger. As such, Applicants respectfully submit Claims 1 and 5 should be deemed allowable.

Claims 2-4 and 6-11 depend from Claim 1 and 5. It is respectfully submitted that these dependent claims should be deemed allowable for at least the same reason(s) Claims 1 and 5 are allowable as well as for the additional subject matter recited therein.

Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of both rejections.

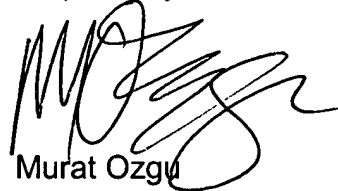
Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration of the application, withdrawal of the outstanding objection and rejections, allowance of Claims 1-11, and the prompt issuance of a Notice of Allowability are respectfully solicited.

Should the Examiner believe anything further is desirable in order to place this application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

In the event this paper is not considered to be timely filed, the Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an extension, together with any additional fees that may be due with respect to this paper, may be charged to counsel's Deposit Account No. 01-2300, **referencing docket number 100725-00113.**

Respectfully submitted,



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Enclosures: Petition for Extension of Time (2 months)
Check No.421039

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